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For Goodbird, the missions were bringing civilization to the Indian. Christians should appreciate the different form of Indian culture and acknowledge that the Indian has contributed much to America. Yet the missions and their programs, including allotment, are essentially progressive. The Indian should be proud of his past, but he should realize that the white ways are better.

I don't mean to suggest that the text is flawed because Goodbird adopts this reactionary position popular with many progressives at the turn-of-the-century, rather that the multiple layers of editing, censoring and encoding make for a text that gives us only a glimpse of Goodbird's actual words and an even less substantial view of his experience.

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**Atlas of Great Lakes Indian History.** By Helen Hornbeck Tanner. Norman: University of Oklahoma Press, 1986. Illus., 33 Maps with Explanatory Text, Index, 224 pp. \$65.00 Cloth.

The value of such visual materials as illustrations and maps for their published work has been altogether too little appreciated by historians. Yet the importance of these aids to understanding the past should be self-evident, for they illuminate aspects of the human story that cannot be adequately represented in words, and so would otherwise remain obscure, if not actually hidden. Ideas and abstractions, for all their fundamental importance for historians, are still not their own concern; personalities and events also contribute to the stuff of history, and these are complicated by cultural considerations, not to mention geography and climate. The word is the basic medium for weaving all these factors into historical narrative, but with the judicious help of visual aids it can become clearer and more meaningful.

Helen Hornbeck Tanner pushes this approach about as far as it will go in her editing of Great Lakes history as told in 33 maps, with the help of pictures, and with the text reduced to an explanatory role. While presenting history in this way must come to terms with certain limitations, in this case it does succeed in vividly portraying the buffeting endured by Great Lakes peoples

from 1600 to 1889, when hunting, gathering, and incidental farming gave way to settled agriculture, which in turn experienced the heavy hand of industrial urbanization.

Once it has defined what it means by "Great Lakes region," the work begins by mapping vegetation and consequent subsistence patterns as they existed in 1600, moving on to the cultural distributions that provided the setting for the Iroquois Wars. These wars spread westward into the area in 1641, erupting sporadically until peace was finally concluded in 1701. The paths of such diverse events as epidemics and expeditions, scientific and military, of warfare and colonial dominance are all traced out, along with resultant shifts in population. Thus graphically displayed, it becomes easier to appreciate what the impact must have been of the advance of White settlement into Amerindian territory. Listings supplement the maps, particularly useful in such generalized eruptions as the War of 1812. An exception is made in the case of reservations, which are mapped for 1783-1889, but not listed, although the accompanying text provides details.

Omitted from both map and list for the Iroquois Wars is the pivotal 1684 expedition of Le Febvre de La Barre, which resulted in the "shameful peace" (in the view of the French) at Anse de la Famine on Lake Ontario. That event spurred the French to avenge their honor with their expedition against the Seneca in 1687, destroying their crops and leading to a winter of starvation. The Seneca responded with the famous Lachine Raid of 1689, which caught the French unaware and was even more damaging psychologically than physically. Unfortunately, that episode, as well as others, are outside the geographical scope of this work; the result is an incomplete picture of what the wars involved. Also, it is surprising to read that they originated "in northern New York State following the introduction of firearms about 1640." (P. 10). While the introduction of firearms changed the character of the warfare by intensifying it and contributing to its expansion, nevertheless the hostilities themselves long predated firearms. Indeed, they were already old when Champlain involved the French in 1609, an involvement that would last until the Peace of Montreal in 1701. On another point altogether, it should be explained that the La Vérendrye who was killed by Amerindians at Lake of the Woods in 1736 was Jean-Baptiste, the

son of Pierre, who led the expeditions into the West (p. 43). That episode was not a senseless act of savagery, but had been provoked by the involvement of the La Vérendryes in the slave trade, sending war captives from the west down to Québec as a means of financing their explorations. Incidentally, while the text makes clear that the organization early in the eighteenth century of the Seven Nations was a French idea (p. 46), it says nothing about its ineffectiveness in Amerindian politics.

As is clear from the above comments, this is not a definitive history, as by its very nature it has had to leave too much out. Tracing the course of events, even in minute detail, does not necessarily instruct us as to why they occurred, or took the paths that they did. Just as maps and illustrations can fill in where words fail, so can words explore realms beyond the scope of visual representation. In the final analysis, history remains a literary art. That said, this Atlas makes a valuable contribution in its visualization of the contact period of Great Lakes history, providing an alternate view that enriches our understanding.

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**1885 and After: Native Society in Transition.** Edited by F. Laurie Barron and James B. Waldram. Regina: Canadian Plains Research Center, 1986. 306 pp. \$15.00 (Canadian). Paperback.

Conference papers often do not result in satisfactory coverage of an historical theme. This collection of papers, concerning the Saskatchewan Rebellion of 1885, led by the Métis visionary Louis Riel, who had also led the previous resistance movement at Red River colony in 1869–70, and of Native society in transition thereafter in Western Canada stands as proof that proceedings can convey the impact of an armed rising against injustice and intrusion as well as the ensuing process of the loss of both territory and independence by the various Native groups of the region. Ten papers deal with the origins and events of 1885 confrontations, while nine others grapple with the aftermath and consequences of the Northwest Rebellion (as it is also called) over the next century. This division enables the editors and organizers of the conference to present the best and most recent scholarship